



NEWS & NOTES FROM NPO



NORTHERN
PHYSICIANS
ORGANIZATION



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A Physician's View on Using the EMR for Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances

Dr. Laura Hill, Brookside Family Medicine, shares the following:

"We use electronic prescribing of controlled substances module with our eClinicalWorks EHR. We love the convenience of being able to prescribe electronically and save time by not having to print, sign, fax or contact patients regarding picking up these types of prescriptions. We also feel we provide better care as we can look in one area to find which medications have been prescribed (electronic prescription area) so it's easier to determine when we last refilled the medication. Moreover, providers can fill these prescriptions when out of the office if desired as they don't have to physically sign the prescription.

Overall we feel it is well worth the cost to utilize this feature in our EHR. (eClinicalWorks charges \$250 per provider per year). We feel the staff time saved and overall office efficiency far outweighs the nominal cost for this feature."

NPO IN THE NEWS - Becker's Hospital Review

Northern Physician Organization has partnered with eMedApps to deploy a real-time notification and analytics system. The system is designed to connect patient care delivered in area emergency rooms to primary care providers and ancillary care providers, including mental health centers and social workers.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL PRESS RELEASE](#)

eCW has put up 2 new notifications on their eCW Support Portal.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a Patient Safety Alert regarding Medication Entry in Telephone Encounter

[CLICK HERE](#) for information regarding Transport Layer Security

The DOL took into consideration the more than 270,000 comments it received from concerned employers and did make changes to the proposed rules. The new rule has been released and it will take effect on December 1, 2016. The new rule is expected to expand overtime protections (by taking away exempt status) from 4.2 million workers. It is expected to cost employers \$12 billion dollars over the next 10 years.

Specifically the new DOL Exemption Rule:

1. Doubles the salary basis threshold from \$23,660 to \$47,476 (slightly less than the \$50,000 in the proposed rule) from \$455 a week to \$913 minimum a week;
2. The salary basis will be automatically updated every three years (instead of every year as in the proposed rule), it is expected to rise to \$51,000 with the first update on January 1, 2020;
3. Raise the "highly compensated employee" threshold from \$100,000 to \$134,004 (higher than the \$122,000 in the proposed rule);
4. Made no change to the duties test; and
5. Allows bonuses and incentive payments to count toward up to 10 % of the new salary level.

Now is the time to examine your workforce, to determine which employees will remain exempt, which will need to be reclassified, and how to explain that to them. This is also a time of opportunity to correct prior misclassified employees.

For assistance in determining proper classifications for your employees, contact an experienced Labor & Employment Attorney

[CLICK HERE FOR DOL RESOURCE](#)

PESTICIDE ILLNESS & INJURY

During the spring and summer months health care providers see more illnesses and injuries caused by pesticides. A pesticide is anything used to prevent, destroy, repel, or reduce pests and the damage they cause. Pests can include insects, weeds, fungi, rodents, and bacteria. Pesticides include bug sprays, weed killers, rat pellets, and disinfectants. All known or suspected occupational pesticide-related related illnesses or injuries are reportable under the Michigan Public Health code.

[READ MORE](#)

MSMS OFFERING 2 WEBINARS

The Michigan State Medical Society Board of Directors is offering an online webinar on June 15 from 12-1pm on "**Reading Remittance Advice**". They are also offering "HEDIS Best Practices" on June 22 from 12:15 - 1:00 (Free, but pre-registration is required).

For more information, including registration, [CLICK HERE](#). Practice managers and office staff should call

Marianne BenHamza at (517) 336-7581 to sign up.



MEMBER CONNECTIONS

For job postings, office space, equipment for sale, etc, please

[CLICK HERE](#)



QUICK LINKS

[NPO Website](#)

[NMHN Website](#)

[NPO Calendar](#)

Always feel free to contact us with any questions, or suggestions.

The NPO Newsletters are for you.

We would love your feedback.

THANKS!

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NPO is committed to providing great resources to our members!



VERY GOOD, MR. COMBS. YOU HAVE PERFECT 20/20/20/20/20/20/20/20/20/20 IN THAT EYE. NOW COVER YOUR OTHER EYE.



"Mindfulness is not the path of chasing. It is the path of beautification. When flowers blossom, the fragrance spreads, and the bees come."

Amit Ray, Mindfulness: Living in the Moment - Living in the Breath